

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANA 02306 190931Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 MC-02 ACDA-07 PM-04 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-03

H-01 /069 W

-----004217 190933Z /12

R 160400Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1546

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 2306

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MASS, YE, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET ARMS TO YEMEN

1. DURING JUNE 13 CONVERSATION, MINISTER OF STAE AHMAD ABDU SAID CONFIRMED RECENT REPORTS THAT A NUMBER OF MIG 17S HAS REVENTLY ARRIVED IN YEMEN AS PART OF A YEMENI ARMS REQUEST TO SOVIETS DATING BACK TO THE FALL OF 1975. (HE SAID THAT HE DID NOT KNOW EXACT FIGURE.)

2. SAID EMPHASIZED THAT ARRIVAL OF THESE PLANES SHOULD IN NO WAY BE INTERPRETED BY US OR SAUDI ARABIA AS A REVERSION BY YEMEN TO ITS FORMER PRO-SOVIET POLICIES. YEMEN STILL WANTS RO RID ITSELF OF SOVIET ARMS BUT YEMEN'S FREINDS SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT YEMENI AIR FORCE IS INCAPABLE TODAY OF DEFENDING YEMEN AGAINST ANY AGGRESSION FROM THE SOUTH OR FROM ETHIOPIA. SAID NOTED THAT MIG 17S ARE AN OLD AIRCRAFT WHICH DOES NOT CHANGE THE BALANCE OF POWER IN THE PENINSULA, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT IS REMEMBERED THAT PDRY HAS BEEN SUPPLIED BY SOVIETS WITH MIG 21S.

3. SAID CONTINUED THAT YEMENHAS NO INTENTION OF ASKING SOVIETS FOR MIG 21S UNTIL SUCH TIME AS IT IS CLEAR THA MODERN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SANA 02306 190931Z

AIRCRAFT ARE UNAVAILABLE FROM WESTERN SOURCES WHICH YEMEN STRONGLY PREFERS.

4. COMMENT: SAID IS RIGHT IN POINTING OUT THAT ARRIVAL OF MIG 17S DOES NOT SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCE THE CAPABILITIES OF THE DECRIPIT YEMENI AIR FORCE. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, IT MEANS THAT THE SOVIETS CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THEIR PRESENCE

IN THE YEMEN ARMED FORCES -- A PRESENCE WHICH CAN ONLY BE
DISLODGED IF AND WHEN THE SAUDIS MAKE A DECISION TO PRO-
VIDE YEMEN'S AIR FORCE WITH MORE MODERN WESTERN EQUIPMENT.
SCOTES

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, ARMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANA02306
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770218-1250
Format: TEL
From: SANA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770650/aaaabrma.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8fd37c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2127963
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET ARMS TO YEMEN
TAGS: MILI, MASS, YE, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8fd37c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009